



News Release

**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Missouri River Region
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OMAHA— A series of public meetings to review the 2001 Annual Operating Plan for the Missouri River will be conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers. The first will be April 10 at the Best Western Kings Inn, 220 S. Pierre St., Pierre, S.D. The second will be April 16 at the Holiday Inn KCI, 11832 Plaza Circle, Kansas City, Mo. Both meetings will begin at 7 p.m. The third will be April 17 at the Northwestern Division-Omaha headquarters building, 12565 West Center Road, Omaha, Neb., beginning at 5 p.m.

In addition, two briefings will be provided to the Fort Peck Assiniboine-Sioux and Three Affiliated Tribal Councils on April 11 and 12. There will also be a public meeting for tribal interests in New Town, N.D., at 7 p.m. on April 12 at the Four Bears Segment Hall, 1 mile west of the Four Bears Lodge.

Following presentations on the current Missouri River reservoir operations and forecasted water supply conditions with this year's plan, members of the public will be invited to comment and discuss the plan. "We're looking forward to hearing from the many groups and individuals affected by our operational decisions," said Larry Cieslik, Chief of the Missouri River Basin Water Management Division here.

Corps officials will provide an update on the current spring runoff outlook and the planned 2001 reservoir operations. They will outline the regulation for flood control, hydropower generation, navigation, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, water supply and water quality, and endangered species. Discussions will center on fine-tuning the plan presented for comment last fall.

Public meetings on reservoir management are routinely held each spring and fall. Additional information is available from the Reservoir Control Center in Omaha, Neb., at (402) 697-2675.

Daily and forecast reservoir and river information is available from the Missouri River Basin Water Management Division on the water management section of the Northwestern Division homepage at www.nwd.usace.army.mil. It is also available by calling the recorded voice/fax message at (402) 697-2678.